IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented)   In a distributed network having a number of server computers and associated client device, a method of creating an anti-computer virus agent, comprising:

parsing the virus into 1) a detection module that identifies a selected one of the client devices as a target client device, 2) an infection module that causes the virus to infect the target client device not infected by the selected virus, and 3) a viral code payload module that infects the targeted client device; and

based upon the parsing,

modifying the parsed virus so that a the detection module for detecting whether a client device is presently infected with a virus triggers the introduction of an anti-virus infection module so that the virus in a client device is overwritten, and wherein an anti-virus agent payload, created based on features of the selected computer virus, performs as a cleaning/repairing payload capable of cleaning and repairing damage done to the client device;

analyzing the infection module to determine the method of infection and the anti-virus agent payload module to determine the deleterious effects;

modifying the infection module to infect client devices already infected by the virus;

incorporating the anti-virus into the payload module that acts to prevent further infection by the virus; and

forming an anti-computer virus agent by combining the detection module, the modified infection module and the anti-virus agent payload.

2. (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the selected computer virus is formed of a detection module, an infection module, and a viral code payload module.

3. (Original)   A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the detection module identifies a selected one of the client devices as a target client device.

4. (Original)   A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the infection module causes the virus to infect those target client devices not infected by the selected virus.

5. (Original)   A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the viral code payload module includes viral code that infects the targeted client device.

6. (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the modifying comprises:

modifying the infection module so that it introduces an anti-virus infection into those client devices already infected by the selected virus.

7. (Original)   A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the modifying comprises:

incorporating innoculation viral code in the payload module that acts to prevent further infection by the selected virus.

8. (Original)   A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the modifying further comprises:

incorporating repair viral code in the payload module that acts to repair any damage in the infected client device caused by the selected virus.

9. (Original)   A method as recited in claim 8, comprising:

forming the anti-viral agent by combining the detection module, the modified infection module and the modified viral payload module.

10. – 18.   (Canceled)